

MAR 13 2015

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO APPROPRIATELY ALIGN
STANDARDIZED TESTS TO STATE CURRICULUM STANDARDS AND
UTILIZE TEST DATA TO INFORM EDUCATIONAL DECISION MAKING FOR
OPTIMAL STUDENT OUTCOMES.

1 WHEREAS, educators care about student learning and use
2 available data, including appropriate test scores, to inform
3 lesson planning and differentiate instruction; and
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5 WHEREAS, standardized testing is necessary and appropriate
6 for purposes such as individualized education program
7 development and advanced placement examinations for college
8 credit; and
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10 WHEREAS, excessive and inappropriate use of standardized
11 testing in public schools is counterproductive because students
12 spend more time taking tests and less time learning; and
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14 WHEREAS, students with disabilities are provided with
15 testing accommodations as specified in their individual
16 education programs or section 504 accommodation plans; and
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18 WHEREAS, testing accommodations are made for English
19 language learners, including accommodations for time extensions,
20 separate test locations, translated test editions, use of
21 bilingual dictionaries and glossaries, oral translations for
22 certain languages, and written responses in native languages;
23 and
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25 WHEREAS, waivers from taking standardized tests are granted
26 when good cause is shown; and
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28 WHEREAS, students and parents have a right to be informed
29 about the purpose and protocol of any standardized test that the
30 student is expected to take, as well as all rights related to



1 test administration, participation, and accompanying reports
2 that identify areas of strength and improvement; now, therefore,
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4 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-eighth
5 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2015, the
6 House of Representatives concurring, that the Department of
7 Education is requested to align standardized tests to state
8 curriculum standards; and
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10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Education is
11 requested to accept teacher feedback on the composition and
12 administration of standardized tests and to act upon that
13 feedback as appropriate; and
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15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Education is
16 requested to incorporate professional development regarding the
17 interpretation of standardized test data for all Department of
18 Education administrators and teachers; and
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20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Education is
21 requested to encourage school administrators and teachers to use
22 test data to inform school policy, instruction, and educational
23 decision making for optimal student outcomes; and
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25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Education is
26 requested to commission independent audits of standardized
27 testing materials and protocols used in the public elementary
28 and secondary schools on a regular basis to review and evaluate
29 the integrity of standardized tests by an independent
30 contractor, unaffiliated with any standardized testing company
31 or agency, with expertise in educational testing; and
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33 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Education is
34 requested to seek federal funds to provide specialized
35 instructional support, targeted programs, and other services
36 designed to address the educational needs of students that are
37 identified by standardized testing data as failing to make
38 sufficient progress in growth or achievement; and
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OFFERED BY:

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